United Nations A/53/985

General Assembly

Distr.: General
2 June 1999
English
Original: Arabic

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 138

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Tammam **Sulaiman** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 15 September 1998, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 55th, 56th and 62nd meetings, on 10, 11 and 27 May 1999. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/53/SR.55, 56 and 62).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (A/53/764 and Corr.1 and A/53/800) and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/53/895 and Add.6).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.48

4. At the 62nd meeting, on 27 May, the representative of Poland and coordinator of the informal consultations on item 138, on behalf of the Chairman, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina" (A/C.5/53/L.48).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.48 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1035 (1995) of 21 December 1995, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina for an initial period of one year, and Council resolution 1174 (1998) of 15 June 1998, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission until 21 June 1999,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1222 (1999) of 15 January 1999, in which the Council authorized the United Nations military observers to continue to monitor the demilitarization of the Prevlaka peninsula until 15 July 1999,

Recalling further its decision 50/481 of 11 April 1996 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 52/243 of 26 June 1998,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina as at 30 April 1999, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 38 million United States dollars, representing 8 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending 21 June 1999, notes that some 42 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges

[1] A/53/764 and Corr.1 and A/53/800.

[2] A/53/895 and Add.6.

all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

8. *Takes note* of the fact that the amount of 10,608,000 dollars gross (9,987,600 dollars net) authorized by its decision 52/437 of 18 December 1997 was not utilized and, therefore, no appropriation or apportionment of this amount is required;

9. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 178,204,381 dollars gross (168,191,981 dollars net) for the maintenance of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, inclusive of the amount of 8,865,888 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 1,738,493 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, to be apportioned, as an ad hoc arrangement, among Member States at a monthly rate of 14,850,365 dollars gross (14,015,998 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1999 and 2000, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 30 June 1999;

10. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 10,012,400 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000;

11. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of

[3] A/53/895/Add.6.

21,752,900 dollars gross (19,524,600 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1998;

12. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 21,752,900 dollars gross (19,524,600 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1998 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

13. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina".